

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 JOHANN 01801 221129Z

43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

IO-13 /069 W

----- 045354

R 221000Z OCT 76

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5204

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 1801

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SF PING

SUBJECT: BLACK MILITANTS ESTABLISH "PEOPLES COURTS" IN TOWNSHIPS

1. A SOURCE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOWETO REVEALED RESISTANCE TO WHITE AUTHORITY IN TOWNSHIPS HAS REACHED A POINT WHERE MILITANTS ARE ESTABLISHING "PEOPLES COURTS" FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRYING SUSPECTED INFORMERS AND OTHERS, INCLUDING TEACHERS, COLLABORATING WITH WHITES. COURTS, ACCORDING TO SOURCE, HAVE BEGUN MEETING SECRETLY AT NIGHT PRESIDED OVER BY FELLOW RADICALS OF THE COMMUNITY.

2. AN "ACCUSED" IS SUMMONED ON PAIN OF VIOLENCE TO APPEAR BEFORE GROUP AND DEFEND HIMSELF. IF FOUND GUILTY SENTENCE IS TO BE PASSED, INCLUDING DEATH IF THE "COURT" SO DECIDES. THE PURPOSE IS TO ELIMINATE THE "FIFTH COLUMN" OF INFORMERS AND COLLABORATORS THE SOWETO RADICALS FEAR AND HATE MOST.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JOHANN 01801 221129Z

3. CAMPAIGN IS TO COINCIDE WITH HARRASSMENT

IN SOWETO AND VIOLENCE AGAINST BLACK POLICE OFFICERS AND OTHER KNOWN "COLLABORATORSS" WHICH COMMENCED IN SOWETO THIS PAST WEEKEND. SEVERAL HOMES OF BLACK POLICE HAVE BEEN ATTACKED AND SHOTS FIRED ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION. ZULU ARTS EXHIBIT OF WITCHDOCTOR CREDO MUTWA, WHO GAVE TESTIMONY BEFORE CILLIE COMMISSION INVESTIGATING TOWNSHIP DISTURBANCES, WAS ALSO BURNED. MINOR INCIDENTS OF BURNINGS AND STONINGS OCCUR ALMOST DAILY, AND TARGETS HAVE BEEN EXPANDED TO INCLUDE FACILITIES (SUCH AS MUNICIPAL VEHICLE DEPOT) OTHER THAN BANTU ADMINISTRATION BOARD PROPERTIES (BEER HALLS, ETC) ALSO, RENEWED VIOLENCE BEGINNING OCTOBER 20 OCCURRED IN PRETORIA BLACK TOWNSHIPS OF ATTERIDGEVILLE AND MAMELODI.

4. SCHOOLS IN SOWETO AND SOME OTHER BLACK TOWNSHIPS HAVE DECLINING NUMBERS OF STUDENTS, WITH SOME CLASSES DOWN TO HALF DOZEN OR SO PUPILS, DUE INTIMIDATION BY ACTIVISTS LEADERS. SAG HAS FOUND DECLINE IN ATTENDANCE SERIOUS ENOUGH TO THREATEN TO CUT FURTHER SUBSIDIES.

5. COMMENT: SOURCE STATED IT WAS THE RADICALS' INTENTION TO TRY TO MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY BLACK TO COOPERATE WITH WHITE AUTHORITIES. IF THE MILITANTS SUCCEED IN DESTROYING THE BLACK ARM OF THE WHITE SECURITY APPARTUS, FOR EXAMPLE, IT WILL SERIOUSLY AFFECT THE ABILITY OF POLICE TO CONTAIN TOWNSHIP VIOLENCE. (INFO IN PARAS ONE AND TWO HAS NOT APPEARED PUBLICLY.) JOHNSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION SECURITY, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, COURTS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JOHANN01801
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760396-1195
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761025/aaaaausy.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BLACK MILITANTS ESTABLISH "PEOPLES COURTS" IN TOWNSHIPS
TAGS: PINT, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006